



UNITED STATES SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND

7701 TAMPA POINT BOULEVARD
MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA 33621-5323

March 4, 2019

Special Operations Command Support Directorate

Mr. Patrick Mackie
MuckRock
DEPT MR 28241
411A Highland Ave.
Somerville, Maine 02144-2516

Dear Mr. Mackie:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request (Attachment 1) originally submitted to the U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM), which was assigned USSOCOM FOIA 2016-257.

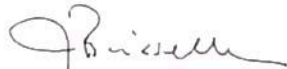
USSOCOM conducted a search and located 99 documents responsive to your request, which were reviewed for a release determination. USSOCOM determined that 28 of the documents require further processing by other agencies as a referral or consultation and are not included in this release. Of the remaining 71 documents, 56 are being withheld in their entirety and portions of remaining 15 documents are being withheld pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(1), as information is currently and properly classified in accordance with Executive Order 13526. Specifically, Sections 1.4(a), which protects military plans, weapons systems, or operations; 1.4(c), to protect intelligence activities (including covert action), intelligence sources or methods, or cryptology; and 1.7(e), for compilation of items of information that are individually unclassified but may be classified if the compiled information reveals an additional association or relationship. In addition, portions of the documents are being withheld pursuant to (b)(2), for Internal Personnel Rules and Practices; (b)(3) 10 U.S.C. § 130b, to protect personally identifying information regarding personnel assigned to an overseas, sensitive or routinely deployable unit; (b)(5), which applies to inter and intra-agency records, which are both deliberative in nature as well as part of the decision-making process; and (b)(6) which protects personal information that, if disclosed to a requester, would result in a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

The 15 partially withheld documents are being released to you in redacted format at Attachments 2 through 16. Due to the requirement to consult on and/or refer the remaining 28 documents, our current estimated completion is between 2-4 years; it could be more or less. The documents are currently and properly classified and will likely be heavily redacted, if not withheld in their entirety. Please inform this office if you are satisfied with the documents provided in this release and if you wish for USSOCOM to continue processing the remaining 28 documents. If we do not hear from you by

March 15, 2019 we will consider your request closed and will provide a separate formal response letter with appeal rights.

You may contact the USSOCOM FOIA Office at foia@socom.mil or our FOIA Public Liaison, James Hogan, at osd.foialiaison@mail.mil for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: email at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; or mail at 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. Boisselle", with a stylized, cursive script.

James C. Boisselle
GS-15, DAFC
Deputy Chief of Staff

Attachments